



## **Workshop #1**

### **Finding My Call to Action**

*Josh Moulton, Jody Marchand, Clementina Chery, Edwin Woo*

*Moderated by Lisa McCue*

When the trajectory of your life has been changed, where do you go next? Four survivors of homicide share their personal journeys following the loss of a loved one to violence. Drawn to Public service, policy development, community engagement, and grassroots activism, this moderated panel will explore four unique paths forged in the aftermath of homicide. Workshop attendees will have an opportunity for Q&A with the panelists and moderator.

## **Workshop #2**

### **Commonwealth v. McGonagle: The Victim Bill of Rights in Action**

*Suffolk County DA's Office*

The Suffolk County District Attorney's Office will review the critical recent SJC decision in Commonwealth v. McGonagle. This case called into question the validity of victim impact statements as outlined in the Massachusetts victim bill of rights. Suffolk's team ardently defended the rights of crime victims to provide impact statements to the court to ensure victims were "active participants" rather than "virtually silent observers." This decision upheld that "victims have a right for a judge to listen with intensity to the perspective of a crime victim." This panel will talk about preparing for the case, the press coverage of the decision, and the significance of it to the victim rights movement.

## **Workshop #3**

### **Youth, Too: Changing the Culture for Young Survivors**

*Alison Safran, Surviving in Numbers*

While often left out of cultural discussions on sexual violence, young (under age 18) survivors often face unique challenges and have unique concerns. 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 6 boys will be sexually abused before the age of 18, and over 33% of women who report being assaulted before 18 experience sexual violence again as an adult. Over the past five years, Surviving in Numbers has trained thousands of high school students across the Commonwealth, empowering them to challenge myths about sexual violence, shift victim-blaming language, and focus on supporting their peers. They have worked with schools to shift their own language to be more empowering, survivor-centered, and inclusive. This workshop will focus on how to respond to younger survivors, present findings from Surviving in Numbers' work with young people, and discuss how the movement to end sexual violence can better include younger survivors.

## **Closing Plenary**

### **#MeToo: How Survivor Movements Can and Should Change Our Work**

*Victim Rights Law Center*

#MeToo and #TIMESUP are not just catchy hashtags co-opted by the media to talk shorthand about sexual assault and harassment. It is a dialogue of millions of survivors sharing their voices and experiences on a powerful platform to inspire social change locally and nationally. As a community entrusted to serve victims of crime, it is our responsibility to hear those voices and actively adapt to how we approach our work. This interactive workshop will explore the power of these movements and how we can harness the momentum to make necessary and innovative change within our own agencies to improve our response to victims of crime. This workshop will be facilitated by lawyers from the Victim Rights Law Center (VRLC) who are national trainers on sexual violence. The VRLC will provide a framework for the workshop, participants will select the small discussion group that best fits their needs and a VRLC lawyer will facilitate each discussion group. The workshop will conclude with a wrap-up on the action items our community commits to accomplishing in the year ahead.